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Ashby Woulds Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1956.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

BY

A. W. McM. SEGERDAL,
M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

C. J. Lewis (Ashby) Ltd.

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Medical Officer of Health.

Ashby Woulds Urban District Council

Medical Officer of Health:
A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:
A. F. J. WEBB

Clerk to the Council: W. JONES

Chairman of the Council:
ALDERMAN E. W. TANDY, J.P.

Chairman Public Health Committee:
COUNCILLOR F. YATES

To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby Woulds Urban District Council:

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report for the year 1956.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population has decreased from 3,390 in 1955 to 3,370 in 1956.

The birth rate (15.1) is higher than last year (13.5), but lower than that for England and Wales (15.7).

The death rate (13.5) is higher than last year (9.4) and lower than that for England and Wales (11.7).

The district is seriously affected by mining subsidence, which is causing damage to numerous properties, roads, sewers and water mains.

The chief causes of death as in the past few years, were in diseases associated with elderly people.

The standards of the sewage works badly damaged by mining subsidence have been greatly improved.

Two houses were completed during the year by private enterprise making a total of 233 houses completed in the post-war period. No houses were completed by the local authority during the year owing to mining subsidence. Six houses badly damaged by mining subsidence were demolished by the local authority. It is proposed to start building 10 Council houses on the Blackfordby Lane site as a commencement of the slum clearance programme.

The number of applicants for Council houses is 150, and the number of applications received during the year 25.

Good progress has been made during the year implementing the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

During the year only 9 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified and there were 2 deaths from Pneumonia.

A reported outbreak of Food Poisoning proved to be the Winter Vomiting Disease on investigation.

I am pleased to report that the number of children being immunised against Diphtheria maintains last year's satisfactory increase.

Four cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. This is rather higher than for some years past.

I should like to thank the staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation. I should like to thank Mr. Webb, the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, for his invaluable assistance.

Finally, I wish to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area		2,427 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ..		3,370
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1955		1,077
Rateable Value		£33,584
Sum represented by a penny rate		£133
Comparability factor ..	Deaths	1.23
	Births	.98

The chief industries of the District are: Engineering, Agriculture, Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking. No industry was noted as having an injurious effect on the health of the District. The District is seriously affected by mining subsidence which is causing damage to numerous properties, roads, sewers and water mains.

There are three recreation grounds with an acreage of 12½ acres in the Urban District.

Vital Statistics

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Live Births—Legitimate	27	25	52
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total ..	27	25	52

Live Birth Rate: 15.1 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate: 15.7 per 1,000 population.

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Still Births—Legitimate	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	1	1
Total ..	0	2	2
Total Births (Live and Still)			54

Stillbirth Rate: 18.5 per 1,000 total live and still births.
England and Wales Stillbirth Rate: 23.0 per 1,000 total live and still births.

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Deaths	24	13	37

Death Rate: 13.5 per 1,000 population.
England and Wales Death Rate: 11.7 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death during 1956

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	1	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	2	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	3	3	6
Coronary disease, angina	6	2	8
Hypertension with heart disease ..	0	1	1
Other heart disease	2	4	6
Pneumonia	2	0	2
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
Congenital Malformations	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
Total ..	24	13	37

Death Rate from total maternal causes per 1,000 births (Live and Still): 0.

Ditto England and Wales: .56.

Death of Infants under 1 year of age:—

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Legitimate	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total ..	0	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births: 18.9.
Ditto England and Wales: 23.8.
Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Legitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total ..	0	0	0

Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live and still births: 0.
Ditto England and Wales: 16.9.

Chief causes of Death during 1956

Disease of Heart and Circulation: 21. Cancer: 7.

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

Hospitals

All hospitals except a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. The County Homes for the aged and infirm are under the auspices of the County Council. When their residents take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. The Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Bridge Road, Coalville, and the Tuberculosis Clinic at Markfield Sanatorium under the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

Nursing in the Home

All district Nursing and Midwifery is under the County Council.

Health Visiting

This work is provided by the County Council and is very ably carried out in the area. A Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester.

Examinations Performed:—

Faeces and urine	7
Sputa	32
Total	39

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and Hospital Boards, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

Water is obtained in bulk supply from the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board and restriction has been imposed due to low rainfall. The quality of the water is satisfactory. The Derwent Valley Scheme has been linked to the Water Board which should improve the supply position.

The whole of the area is supplied with mains water. Periodical water analysis is carried out by the Water Board. The daily consumption is 257,000 gallons.

Sewage Disposal

The standards of the Sewage Works, badly damaged by mining subsidence, have been greatly improved. At the Donisthorpe Lane Works, one filter bed has been rebuilt, sludge beds altered and improved, and all equipment overhauled. Improvement works have also been carried out at the Albert Village and Stone Row works. Reasonably satisfactory effluents are being produced.

Closet Accommodation

The total number in the District on 31st December, 1956:

(1) Privies 6. (2) Pail Closets 27. (3) W.Cs. 758.

Two privies have been converted into pail closets and two pail closets to W/Cs. A grant is made towards conversion.

Earth closets, privies and cesspools are emptied weekly by the use of Shelvoke and Drewry Gully Emptier. Contents are carted to the Sewage Works.

Public Cleansing

The whole district is covered by a weekly collection of house refuse by Shelvoke and Drewry Refuse Freighter. In conjunction with the Repton Rural District Council a new tip will be opened in January, 1957, at Heywood's Yard, just off the Rawdon Road. The site being an old clay hole, which it is estimated will last about twenty years. The existing tip in Measham Road will be closed and covered down.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area

(*a*)	Total number of complaints received	73
(*b*)	Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	21
(*c*)	Total number of nuisances or defects dealt with in (*b*)	9

Inspections Made:—	*No. of Inspections*
Animal Keeping	2
Bakehouses	6
Drainage Works	149
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	526
Food Premises	11
Refuse Collection and Disposal	36
Rodent Control	8
Shops	38
Slaughter-Houses and Meat Inspection	117
Verminous and Dirty Premises	4
Water Supplies	541
Workshops, Outworkers, etc.	7
Other Inspections	53
Total	1,508

Notices

Preliminary:—	*Housing*	*Public Health*
Issued during year	7	4
Complied with during year	7	4

No Statutory Notices have been served during the year.

Shops

Action taken during the year under the Provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950:—

	Outstanding from Previous Year	*Defects found*	*Defects remedied*	*Outstanding 31st Dec.*
Sanitary Conveniences	1	2	2	0
Washing Facilities	0	4	4	0
Facilities for taking meals	0	2	0	2

Camping Sites

Number of licenses issued for movable dwellings, Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936 : 3.

The Pet Animals Act

No premises in district.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951

No premises in district.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The part-time Council Rodent Operator dealt with all cases of infestations.

Number of Schools disinfected: 1.

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public

None in district.

SECTION D

Housing

New Houses

Houses completed during the year:—
By Private Enterprise: 2 permanent houses.

Houses in course of erection at end of year:—
By Private Enterprise: Nil.

Number of Post War Houses completed by:—	
(*a*) Local Authority	212
(*b*) Private Enterprise	21
Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year	150
Number of applications received during the year ..	25
Number of Council Houses in the district prior to the war (1939)	138

Housing

The Council have demolished six houses badly affected by mining subsidence.

It is proposed to commence building ten Council houses on the Blackfordby Lane site as a commencement of the Council's Slum Clearance programme.

Housing Summary

(*a*) Total number of houses occupied in district ..	1,077
(*b*) Total number of Council houses occupied in district	344

Housing Act 1949

Number of applications for reconditioning grants ..	Nil

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Number of premises registered:—	
(*a*) Manufacture and Retail	Nil
(*b*) Manufacture only	Nil
(*c*) Retail only	9

Milk Supply

Dairies and Distributors:—

	No. on Register	*No. of Inspections*
Dairies	Nil	Nil
Distributors	4	4

Biological Milk Samples: 2 taken by the County Council.
Bacteriological Milk Sampling: No action taken.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

Particulars of Licences issued:—

(*a*) Dealers Licences	Nil
(*b*) Supplementary Licences..	5

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued:—

	Pasteurised	*Sterilised*
(*a*) Dealers Licences ..	Nil	Nil
(*b*) Supplementary Licences..	4	Nil

Meat and Other Foods

	Private
Number of slaughter houses in area	3
Number of animals slaughtered in area	390
Number of animals examined therein	390
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter ..	205
Number of Knacker Yards in Area	Nil

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*
Number killed (if known)	83	230	83
Number inspected	83	230	83
All Diseases except Tuberculosis			
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	16	0
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	17%	7%	0
Tuberculosis only			
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	7%	0	0

Meat Stalls

Inspections: 4.

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

Number of inspections	12
Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale	37

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

The traders of the district have responded favourably to requests to meet the various requirements of these regulations, and it may be said that the standard of hygiene is exceptionally good throughout. Plans have been deposited for the improvement of two canteens, and, except for two cases, canteens provided at the various works are exceptionally good.

SECTION F

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases (other than tuberculosis) during 1955

Disease	*Final numbers after correction*	*Cases admitted to hospital*	*Deaths*
Measles	2	0	0
Pneumonia ..	1	0	2
Whooping Cough	6	0	0
	9	0	2

Analysis under Age Groups according to Registrar General's Return 118d

Age Groups	*Measles*	*Whooping Cough*
Under 1	0	0
1 - 2	0	1
3 - 4	0	1
5 - 9	2	3
10 - 14	0	1
15 - 24	0	0
25 and over	0	0
Age unknown	0	0
	2	6

Age Groups	*Pneumonia*
Under 5	0
5 - 14	0
15 - 44	0
45 - 64	0
65 and over	1
Total ..	1

An Outbreak of the Winter Vomiting Disease

It was reported in November, 1956, that 15 children were absent from Moira School with "food poisoning." On enquiry it was ascertained that other children had been absent before with similar symptoms. Later other children were away with the same symptoms. Some children and adults who did not have school meals were also ill. Investigation of symptoms suggested Winter Vomiting, and bacteriological examination of all specimens was completely negative.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria

Number of children who were immunised during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1956:—

Age at 31-12 56	Under 1 yr.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
i.e., Born in Year	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Primary Immunisation	10	24	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Booster Injections	0	0	0	0	1	19	7	0	0	0	0	0

Total: Primary Immunisation 42. Booster Injection 27.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis Register for the year ending 31st December, 1956

	Males		*Females*		
	Pul.	*Non-Pul.*	*Pul.*	*Non. Pul.*	*Total*
Number of Cases on Register at the commencement of year	0	3	3	1	7
Number of Cases notified for the first time during the year	1	0	3	0	4
Number of Cases added to Register other than by formal notification ..	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Cases restored to Register	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Cases removed from the Register during the year	0	1	0	0	1
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	1	2	6	1	10

Causes of Removal

	Males		*Females*		
	Pul.	*Non-Pul.*	*Pul.*	*Non-Pul.*	*Total*
Cured	0	1	0	0	1
Total	0	1	0	0	1

There is a free co-operation between local authority and the Chest Physician, and every assistance is given in the ascertainment of contacts, re-housing or in employment.

A special clinic for contacts has been working very satisfactory and general practitioners have availed themselves fully of X-ray facilities.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Resume of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1956, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

Premises	*No. on Register*	*Inspection*	*Written Notices*
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	23	0
Total	14	23	0

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	*Number of cases in which defects were found;* *Found*	*Remedied*
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)		
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2
Other offences	1	1
Total ..	4	4

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (*Sections* 110 *and* 111)

Section 110:—

Nature of Work	*No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section* 110 (1) (*c*) (3)
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	1
Wearing Apparel	1